

Don & Karen Franzmeier moved to 1535 Summit Drive seven years ago. Their new garden had lovely old trees, lots of deep shade and numerous bush honeysuckles. Many hours were spent digging out the invasive honeysuckle. After that dig they added light by climbing up the trees and added shade tolerant evergreens such as western red cedar, hemlock and spruce. Don built a trellis and they added climbing hydrangea, hops and wisteria.

The Franzmeiers searched in Michigan and Indiana to find other remarkable plants. The tri-colored beech gives off a rosy glow as it flourishes next to the new screened porch. From this porch, Don and Karen can view their serene garden that includes bird feeders, Japanese Pieris, shrubs and the "H garden" that is filled with hosta, holly & hemlock.

Their efforts do not stop at the property line; Don & Karen are leaders in their neighborhood. In 2011 they coordinated an Emerald Ash Borer awareness project that educated residents in Northwestern Hts about the prevalence of Ash trees; there are 44 Ash trees on Summit. Don is active in the West Lafayette Tree Fund where he is known as "Big Guns" because he prunes the biggest limbs. Karen is actively implementing a family-oriented cooperative flower garden project at Summit and Garden streets. Congratulations to these two dedicated workers.

****Scroll down to see photo****

